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For Immediate Release  
September 15, 2005

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## **Post-Labor Day school start approved by Sen. Sanborn's committee**

**LANSING** – Michigan parents, students, and tourism-related business owners would benefit by requiring schools to start after Labor Day, said Sen. Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond Township, after the committee he chairs supported the new start date.

The Senate Economic Development, Small Business, and Regulatory Reform on Wednesday sent House Bill 4803, which would require the post-Labor Day start, to the full Senate for consideration. The new starting date would allow parents to take longer trips during the extended weekend without having their children miss school days.

“Starting classes after Labor Day allows families a final long trip before getting back to school while helping an important part of Michigan’s economy,” Sanborn said. “This proposal makes sound economic sense and finds strong support from the public.”

Starting school after Labor Day would generate an estimated \$10 million more in tourism-related tax revenue for the state. The added tourism also would create an estimated 2,000 new jobs and between \$100 million and \$200 million in economic activity.

The bill would require schools to not start session before Labor Day. If a collective bargaining agreement conflicts with the provisions of the bill, it would not apply until after the expiration date of the collective-bargaining agreement.

One recent poll out found that nearly two-thirds of Michigan voters said they supported having schools open after Labor Day showing widespread public support for the change.

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